



# Voting Information News

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## Voting Assistance Officers

### "To Do" This Month:

- ✓ Set up your Absentee Voting Week activities (October 8-14). Remind voters of the deadlines for mailing ballots to their state and announce through various media that voters should return their voted ballot immediately upon receiving it! Note that a few states require absentee ballots to arrive prior to election day!
- ✓ Place FVAP posters in communal areas to help remind citizens of the upcoming general election.
- ✓ Visit [www.fvap.gov](http://www.fvap.gov) more often to keep current on news and updates for UOCAVA citizens.
- ✓ Encourage individuals to contact their local election office immediately if they do not receive their ballots in a timely manner.
- ✓ Ensure you have adequate supplies of Federal Write-In Absentee Ballots (FWAB) for voters you assist. Refer to the 2006-07 Voting Assistance Guide and the September issue of this newsletter (also available at [www.fvap.gov](http://www.fvap.gov)) for important information on the FWAB.

**A roundup of voting news from the Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP) for voters, potential voters and those who assist voters.**

## Integrated Voting Alternative Site (IVAS)

The Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP) announces the latest addition to the FVAP website: [www.fvap.gov](http://www.fvap.gov). On September 1, 2006, the FVAP launched the Integrated Voting Alternative Site (IVAS). A link to this new section of our website can be found on the homepage of [www.fvap.gov](http://www.fvap.gov). After clicking on the IVAS link, users are directed to a state map where they can select their home state to obtain information regarding electronic ballot request and delivery alternatives available to citizens covered by the *Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA)*.

This effort by the FVAP further informs UOCAVA citizens of their request and delivery options during the absentee voting process. The FVAP recognizes that due to the nature of absentee voting, accessing electronic alternatives to current by-mail voting procedures can greatly assist in ensuring that all UOCAVA citizens are enfranchised. Possible electronic alternatives offered by various states and territories include:

- Fax or email return of the Voted Ballot
  - Fax-to-email conversion of the above via the Department of Defense Electronic Transmission Service
- Each state and territory has differing laws regarding the use of electronic transmission alternatives to the by-mail process with respect to absentee voting materials.
- The 2006 IVAS website will not only include each state's specific electronic alternative regulations, but furthermore offers a new feature for military, family members and Department of Defense employees and contractors overseas. Participating states will allow eligible citizens to request a blank ballot through an automated version of the FPCA, as well as receive a ballot electronically. Individuals eligible for access to this new feature are those who are currently registered to vote in their legal US voting residence. The automated FPCA available through the IVAS portion of the FVAP website provides those eligible users with an additional electronic alternative designed to expedite the absentee voting process and facilitate communication between local election offices and voters. ☑
- Faxing or emailing of the Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) for Registration
  - Faxing or emailing of the FPCA for Ballot Request
  - Faxing or emailing of the Blank Ballot to citizens

## Absentee Voting Week - October 8 to 14, 2006

VAOs are asked to announce, through various media, that voters should return their voted ballot immediately upon receiving it. If UOCAVA citizens have not received their regular state ballot by Absentee Voting Week, then they should use the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB – available online at [www.fvap.gov](http://www.fvap.gov)). For guidance on completing the FWAB and requirements for using the FWAB, read the September, 06 articles of this newsletter and Chapter Two of the 2006-07 Voting Assistance Guide (also available online). ☑

### Share your good ideas!

Send your good ideas and lessons learned to your Department of State or Service Voting Action Officer. (Contact information on page 3)

## "To Do" This Month (continued):

✓ Ensure people know how to get in touch with you for absentee voting assistance. Set aside time to assist those with absentee voting questions. The Federal Voting Assistance Program is available to help you if you cannot find the information you need locally.

✓ Ensure you have sufficient help to assist citizens you are responsible for. Certify additional VAOs by providing them with the E-Learning CD, FPCA, FWAB and refer them to [www.fvap.gov](http://www.fvap.gov) for additional tools and resources. Send email to [vote@fvap.ncr.gov](mailto:vote@fvap.ncr.gov) for a copy of the E-Learning CD.

✓ Your Service Voting Action Plan is your "game plan". Link to your Service website from [www.fvap.gov](http://www.fvap.gov), download it and read it.

✓ Select "Changes to the Voting Assistance Guide" from the FVAP website and ensure your hard copy of the Guide is updated.

**NOTE:** The appearance of external hyperlinks does not constitute endorsement by the United States Federal Government, United States Department of Defense or the Federal Voting Assistance Program of the linked web sites, or the information, products or services contained therein. The Federal Voting Assistance Program does not exercise any editorial control over the information you may find at these locations.

## Using [www.fvap.gov](http://www.fvap.gov)

The FVAP website, [www.fvap.gov](http://www.fvap.gov), (updated regularly) provides a library of voting related information, resources and tools for citizens covered by the *Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA)*. With the November 7 general elections fast approaching, Voting Assistance Officers (VAO), persons who act as voting volunteers and local election officials will find that using [www.fvap.gov](http://www.fvap.gov) is very helpful when assisting UOCAVA citizens participate in the democratic process. Following is a synopsis of helpful links for providing voting assistance. Note that underlined items are actual links the user may select to navigate through the FVAP website from the front page.

Citizens may call asking questions such as "How can I find out what my county is?" Have them visit the FVAP website where they may click on What is my County? They will then be directed to the US Census Bureau Quick Facts where they can input their city or Zip Code and the county name will be provided.

VAOs and UOCAVA citizens may find many of their questions answered from a list of Frequently Asked Questions provided on our website. The July 2006 issue of this newsletter provides Additional Frequently Asked Questions.

VAOs should check out the Voting Assistance Tools available to them. Local election officials should check out the Local Election Official Information available to them.

One of the best ways for UOCAVA citizens to check on the status of their Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) is to contact their local election office directly. The citizen may link to their State Election Site (includes all 55 states and territories) where they may find a complete address of their local election official to include, phone, fax and email. Any questions regarding FPCA or absentee ballot status should be addressed to them. The FPCA is available online. Select On-line Registration and Absentee Ballot Request Form.

Some states now have an online registration verification website. Residents of these states may go online and find out their registration status. A list of these states with links to their State Voter Registration Verification Websites is provided from the FVAP website. (See article on page 3.)

The FVAP's Voting Information Center (VIC) provides information (and possibly a recorded message) from candidates running for Federal

offices. Citizens may use the FVAP contact information provided in this newsletter to access the VIC. Note that international toll-free numbers from over 65 countries are also available from the FVAP website. Select Toll-Free Telephone Numbers to FVAP. The State Election Site may also contain information about candidates. Read "Information on the Web" article on page 4 for additional websites that have candidates' information.

The FVAP website provides a listing of Ballot Request and Return Deadlines. These deadlines are provided in two separate files for Uniformed Services and overseas citizens, and in PDF and HTML formats. Each file provides a state-by-state listing of registration, ballot request and ballot return deadlines for the November 7, 2006 General Election. To find out when the state mails out ballots, refer to Chapter Three of the *2006-07 Voting Assistance Guide*. Select State by State Instructions from the FVAP front page.

If by mid October (or earlier, depending on local country mail delivery) UOCAVA citizens have not received their requested regular state ballot, then they should use the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB), available online. Select On-Line Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot. Follow state specific requirements for completing the FWAB (Select State by State Instructions) and Chapter Two of the *2006-07 Voting Assistance Guide* (Select the Publications tab). Also, the September issue of this newsletter features the FWAB.

To find out if a state allows electronic transmission of balloting materials, the FVAP website provides the newly launched section called the Integrated Voting Alternative Site (IVAS) (see article on page 1). Voters should follow specific State by State Instructions when transmitting by fax or email. A fax/email cover sheet and additional instructions are provided in Appendix B of the *2006-07 Voting Assistance Guide*. Select Electronic Transmission (Faxing/eMail). Remember to mail the original FPCA or ballot. Follow all state requirements (such as notary and witness requirements) before returning the voted ballot.

Become familiar with the resources available to you and the voter on the FVAP website, especially the links mentioned here, and stay current on news and updates from the states. Creating a shortcut to the FVAP website from your desktop is one way of having immediate access to guidance and answers for citizens you assist. ☑

## Check Your Voter Registration Status On-Line

The Federal Voting Assistance program encourages the states to make available to citizens online tools that allow voters to check their registration status. These sites allow voters the opportunity to promptly know if they are registered with their jurisdiction and provide them with the opportunity to take corrective measures if necessary. To date, ballot registration status sites have been launched in 18 states (Updates to this list is available at: <http://www.fvap.gov/vao/stregissites.html>):

### Delaware

[pollingplace.delaware.gov/](http://pollingplace.delaware.gov/)

### District of Columbia

[www.dcboee.org/voterreg/vic\\_step1.asp](http://www.dcboee.org/voterreg/vic_step1.asp)

### Georgia

[www.sos.state.ga.us/cgi-bin/Locator.asp](http://www.sos.state.ga.us/cgi-bin/Locator.asp)

### Indiana

[www.indianavoters.com/PublicSite/Public/PublicVoterRegistration.aspx?AspxAutoDetectCookieSupport=1](http://www.indianavoters.com/PublicSite/Public/PublicVoterRegistration.aspx?AspxAutoDetectCookieSupport=1)

### Kansas

<https://myvoteinfo.voteks.org/>

### Kentucky

[cdc.ky.gov/VICWeb/index.jsp](http://cdc.ky.gov/VICWeb/index.jsp)

### Louisiana

<http://sos.louisiana.gov/polllocator/>

### Maryland

[mdelections.umbc.edu](http://mdelections.umbc.edu)

### Michigan

[michigan.gov/sos/0,1607,7-127-1633-49313--,00.html](http://michigan.gov/sos/0,1607,7-127-1633-49313--,00.html)

### Nebraska

<https://www.votercheck.necvr.ne.gov/>

### North Carolina

[www.sboe.state.nc.us/](http://www.sboe.state.nc.us/)

### Ohio

[www.sos.state.oh.us/sosapps/elections/voterquery.aspx](http://www.sos.state.oh.us/sosapps/elections/voterquery.aspx)

### Puerto Rico.

<http://www.ceepur.org/serviciosLineas/estatusEelectoral/index.htm>

### South Carolina

<https://webprod.cio.sc.gov/SCSECVoterWeb/voterInformationSearch.do>

### Utah

[gva1.utah.gov/elections/polling.aspx](http://gva1.utah.gov/elections/polling.aspx)

### Virginia,

[http://www2.sbe.virginia.gov/VotReg/VR\\_Confirmation/Default.html](http://www2.sbe.virginia.gov/VotReg/VR_Confirmation/Default.html)

### Washington

[www.secstate.wa.gov/elections/lookup.aspx/](http://www.secstate.wa.gov/elections/lookup.aspx/)

### West Virginia

[www.wvvotes.com/voters/am-i-registered.php](http://www.wvvotes.com/voters/am-i-registered.php) ... ☒

### Voting Action Officers

#### Department of State: Office of Overseas Citizens Services

Chief VAO: Mr. Jack Markey, **tel:** (202) 736-4937, **fax:** (202) 647-6201, **Email:** [votinginfo@state.gov](mailto:votinginfo@state.gov)  
Deputy VAO: Ms. Stefanie Eye, **tel:** (202) 647-5435, **fax:** (202) 647-6201

#### Service Voting Action Officers

**U.S. Dept. of the Army:** Mr. Alton Perry **tel:** (703) 325-4530 **DSN:** 221-4530; **fax:** (703) 325-4532  
**DSN fax:** 221-4532, **Email:** [alton.perryj@hoffman.army.mil](mailto:alton.perryj@hoffman.army.mil),  
<https://www.hrc.army.mil/site/Active/TAGD/psd/psb/votingindex.htm>

**U.S. Dept. of the Navy:** LT David Truman **tel:** 1-866-U-ASK-NPC (827-5672) (select option 6 from menu),  
**fax:** (901) 874-6825, **DSN fax:** 882-6825,  
**Email:** [vote@navy.mil](mailto:vote@navy.mil), <http://www.cni.navy.mil/NavyVote/Index.html>

**U.S. Dept. of the Air Force:** Mr. John Lowrance **tel:** (210) 565-5000, **toll free:** 1-800 616-3775 (Select options 1, then 1, then 2 from menu), **DSN** 665-5000; **fax:** (210) 565-2543, **DSN fax:** 665-2543;  
**Email:** [afpc/dpffofvotefund@randolph.af.mil](mailto:afpc/dpffofvotefund@randolph.af.mil); <http://www.afcrossroads.com/VoteFund/Vote/default.htm>

**U.S. Marine Corps:** Mr. David E. James **tel:** (703) 784-9511, **DSN:** 278-9511; **fax:** (703) 784-9823,  
**DSN fax:** 278-9823; **Email:** [david.e.james@usmc.mil](mailto:david.e.james@usmc.mil)  
[https://www.manpower.usmc.mil/pls/portal/url/page/m\\_ra\\_home/MR/Personnel/Voting](https://www.manpower.usmc.mil/pls/portal/url/page/m_ra_home/MR/Personnel/Voting)

**U.S. Coast Guard:** LTJG Dan Owen **tel:** (202)-267-1709, **fax:** (202) 267-4823;  
**Email:** [dowen@comdt.uscg.mil](mailto:dowen@comdt.uscg.mil),  
[http://www.uscg.mil/hq/g-w/g-wp/g-wpm/g-wpm-1/VotingAssistance/Voting\\_Assistance.htm](http://www.uscg.mil/hq/g-w/g-wp/g-wpm/g-wpm-1/VotingAssistance/Voting_Assistance.htm)

All of the above can also be reached through the DoD Voting Information Center and the FVAP Website.

## Federal Voting Assistance Program

Department of Defense  
1155 Defense Pentagon  
Washington, DC  
20301-1155

PHONE:  
(703) 588-1584  
DSN 425-1584

FAX  
(703) 696-1352  
DSN 426-1352

VOTING INFORMATION  
CENTER (VIC):  
(703) 588-1343  
DSN 425-1343

TOLL FREE (VIC and FVAP  
staff member):  
1-800-438-VOTE (8683)

Visit our website for  
international toll-free phone  
and fax numbers.

EMAIL:  
[vote@fvap.ncr.gov](mailto:vote@fvap.ncr.gov)

Comments or suggestions on  
this newsletter are welcome.

Website:  
[www.fvap.gov](http://www.fvap.gov)

# Vote!

## Voting Information on the Web

Whether you are a Voting Assistance Officer, a local election official or a voter, you now have easier and faster access to voting information on the web! The websites [PayAttention.org](http://PayAttention.org) and [CanIVote.org](http://CanIVote.org) have both been launched within the past few months and offer state by state, in-depth voting information to anyone with internet access.

[PayAttention.org](http://PayAttention.org), a joint project between the Federal Voting Assistance Program and the Ad Council, is aimed at reaching 18-24 year olds and asks the question "If you're not voting, then who are you electing?" by featuring seven unlikely candidates. Among them are "Spoiled Yappy Dog", "Old Relish Packet" and "Side of Hashbrowns", who have true-to-life political advertising for their mock political campaigns. The site is meant to promote the importance of voting, not to ridicule any political process or party.

[PayAttention.org](http://PayAttention.org)'s main feature is the "State Guide". By selecting this tab the voter has access to information on registration, in-person voting and absentee voting for each state. It also provides state forms, candidate information, deadlines

and contact information. The information is provided through direct links to the non-partisan website Project Vote Smart (<http://www.vote-smart.org/index.htm>). [PayAttention.org](http://PayAttention.org) may also be accessed through the FVAP's Get out the Vote Campaign page by selecting the Services tab from the FVAP website front page.

[CanIVote.org](http://CanIVote.org) was created by the National Association of Secretaries of State with a similar goal of making voting as simple and convenient as possible. The site links to individual state pages (where available) for registration verification, polling place locations, identification requirements, voting dates and candidate information. [CanIVote.org](http://CanIVote.org) may also be accessed from the FVAP front page by selecting Election Organizations link (<http://www.fvap.gov/links/electionlinks.html>)

Although these sites mainly feature information for in-person voters, they also have valuable absentee voting information and links to state specific absentee voting procedures, as well as the candidate, registration and contact information needed by all voters. ☑

Moving? Send an FPCA to notify your local election official. Also, send us an email so that you and your replacement can continue receiving this *newsletter*.

Federal Voting Assistance Program  
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1155 Defense Pentagon  
Washington, DC 20301-1155



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